GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4330
ANSWERED ON:19.05.2006
HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER PROJECTS
Chaudhary Shri Pankaj

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received representations regarding slow pace of hydro-electric power projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has decided to take special steps to expedite the progress of hydro-electric power projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) & (b) : No specific representation regarding slow pace of hydro-electric power projects in the country has been received. However, the matter has been raised in various forums like the meetings of the Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament for the Ministry of Power and Standing Committee on Energy. The pace of development of hydro-electric power projects in the country has been affected due to various factors like delays in land acquisition, rehabilitation & resettlement problems, delays in environment and forest/wild life clearances, geological surprises, inter-State water disputes, longer gestation period, law and order problems, difficult and in-accessible potential sites and poor infrastructural development in hilly areas where the hydro-electric potential is available.

(c) & (d) : The Government has taken various steps to expedite the development of hydro-electric projects in the country. Some of the steps taken by the Government are as under:

Creation of various Central /Joint Sector Corporations for implementation of Hydro-Electric (H.E.) Projects.

Policy on hydropower development (1998) including measures to attract Private participation.

3-stage clearance procedure for CPSUs.

50,000 MW Hydroelectric Initiative.

Advance action for identification of H.E. Projects for benefits during 11th Plan and beyond.

National Water Policy, 2002.

National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2003.

Enactment of Electricity Act, 2003.

Formulation of National Electricity Policy, 2005.

Guidelines for determination of tariff by bidding process for procurement of power by distribution licensees.

Periodical review of projects under construction by the Ministry of Power and Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

Monitoring of the projects under construction by the nodal officers of CEA.

Regular visits of Senior Officers to project sites.

Review meetings with manufacturers/suppliers of major equipments.

Co-ordination meetings with Ministry of Environment & Forests/Ministry of Water Resources/Central Water Commission for early clearance of the projects from environment, forest wild life angles and sharing of waters of inter-State rivers.